32. ITDC Hotel Jaipur Ashok

33. ITDC Hotel Patliputra Ashok

34. ITDC Hotel Kalinga Ashok

35. ITDC Hotel Jammu Ashok

36. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

37. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.

II. Joint Sector hotel properties of ITDC, where Government is in discussion with State Governments

38. Hotel Neelachal Ashok; Puri

39. Hotel Lakeview Ashok; Bhopal

40. Hotel Ranchi Ashok, Ranchi

41. Hotel Bramputra Ashok; Guwahati

42. Hotel Pondicherry Ashok; Pondicherry

43. Hotel Donyi Polo Ashok; Itanagar

44. Hotel Punjab Ashok, Anandpur Sahib

III. Open offer of residual share in the market

45. Maruti Udyog Ltd.

Relations with neighbouring countries

244. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's relationship is fast declining with her neighbours in the sub-continent.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government proposes to take effective steps to improve Indo-Pak and Indo-Bangla ties; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) India remains firmly committed to good neighbourly relations with its neighbours and enjoys friendly

relations including with Bangladesh. Pakistan is however continuing its compulsive hostility and sponsorship of cross border terrorism into India.

(b) to (d) India remains firmly committed to the path of dialogue and reconciliation with Pakistan in keeping with the Simla Agreement and the Lahore Declaration. India has repeatedly called upon Pakistan to end its sponsorship of terrorism in India so that a conducive environment can be created forthe resumption of bilateral dialogue.

Sympathy for Al-Qaida in Pakistani nuclear programme

†245. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that famous American magazine 'Newyorker' has termed Pakistan as the most dangerous country of the world;

(b) whether this magazine has given indications of a lot of sympathy for Al-Qaida in Pakistani nuclear programme;

(c) if so, whether Government's reaction on exchange of nuclear programme between Pakistan and Al-Qaida has been conveyed to America; and

(d) the details of the steps assured by America in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA): (a) and (b) Government has seen a number of U.S. media reports that have raised concerns about Pakistan, including on the links between Al Qaida and officials associated with Pakistan's nuclear programme.

(c) Government has conveyed to the U.S. Government its concerns in this reard as also on Pakistan's role in proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

(d)The United States has ongoing dialogue on nuclear security issues with Pakistan, announced during the visit of President Musharraf to Washington D.C. in February 2002.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.